

Meeting Summary

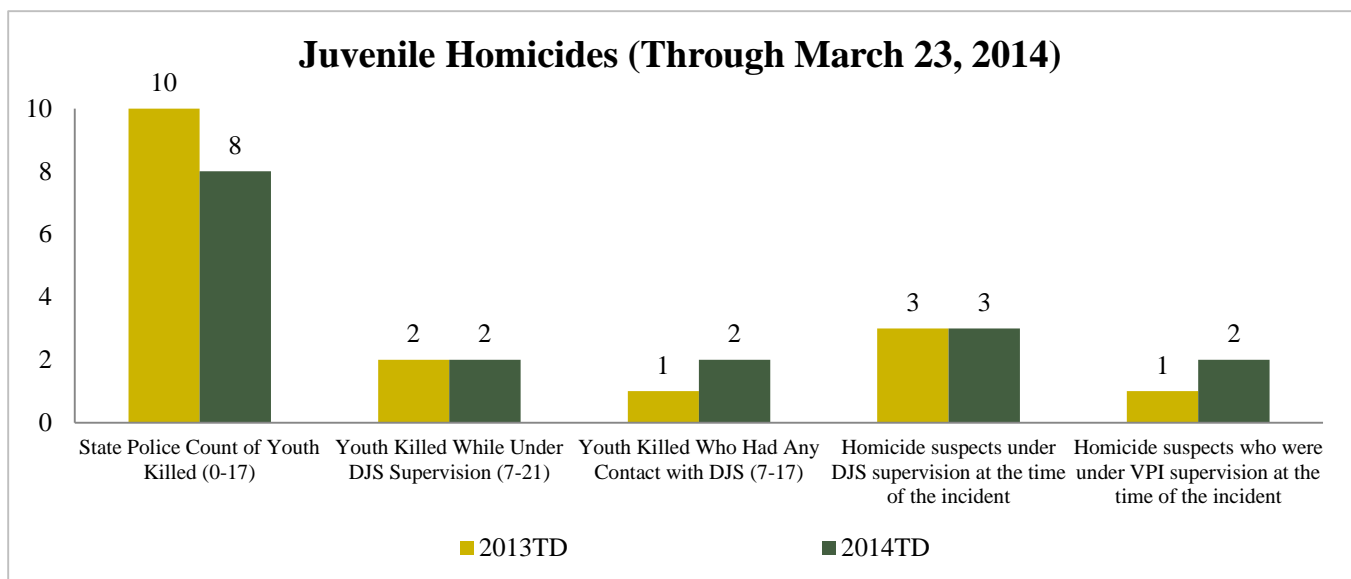
Following is a summary of the issues discussed at the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) Stat meeting on March 26, 2014. Analysis provided by StateStat.

Opening Remarks

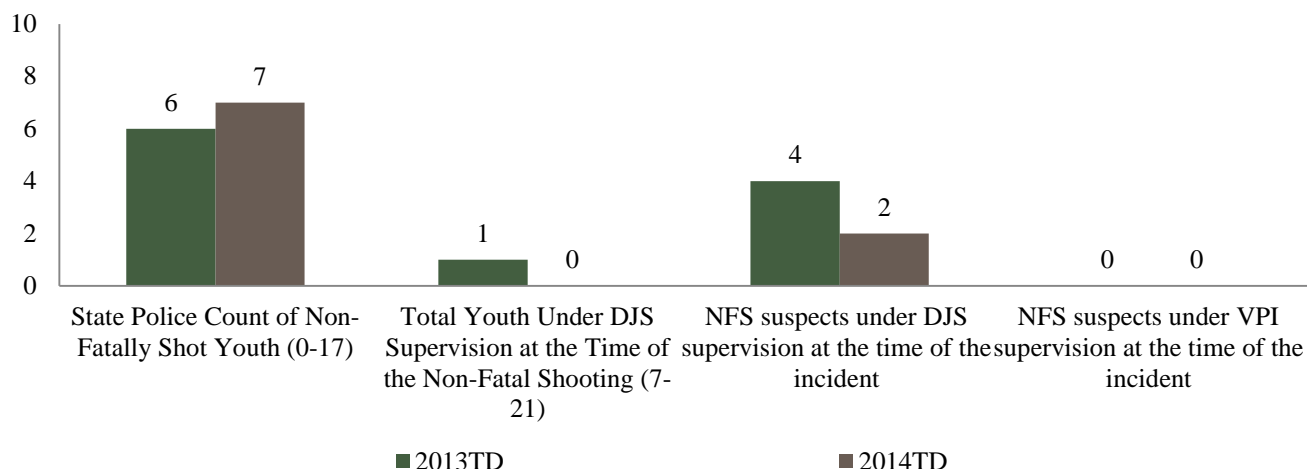
- Kemba Smith, an author and activist, recently visited the girls at the Waxter facility to discuss her memoir and her education curriculum called “What’s L-O-V-E Got to Do with It?”
- Youth from the William Donald Scheafer House recently had the opportunity to attend the Ed Block Courage Award ceremony in Baltimore, Maryland.

Strategic Goal: Reduce Violent Crime against Women and Children by 25% by the End of 2018

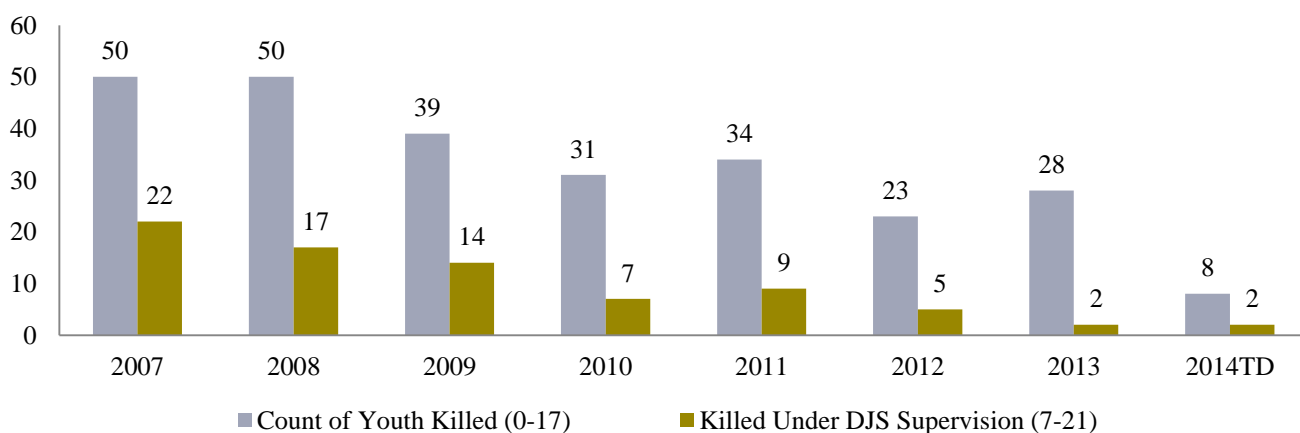
- **Analyzing Juvenile Homicides and Non-Fatal Shootings.** Point in time data statewide indicates that there have been two fewer juvenile homicides through March 23rd of this year. However, youth killed who had any contact with DJS, has increased by one. In addition, overall non-fatal shootings have increased from six to seven from 2013 to 2014, at this point in time. DJS recently went through the suspect data and four out of five were on warrant status at the time of the incidents. Two cases occurred in Salisbury, Maryland and two were on dually committed (DHR).



Non-Fatal Shootings (Through March 23, 2014)



Juvenile Homicides, Ages 0-17 and Youth killed Under DJS Supervision, Ages 7-21, CY 2007-2014TD



18-Month Plan

- At the request of the Governor's Office, each state agency involved in the Stat process was asked to provide summaries of milestones they plan to hit in the next 18 months. StateStat will be tracking progress on these milestones during all Stat meetings.
- An Update on the State's Under-13 Intervention Initiative.** Though still in its first few months of operation, the Under-13 Initiative is already producing promising results. According to the most recent data, 46 youth have been referred to the U-13 pilot program in Baltimore City. Despite temporary case backlogs, due to school snow days and administrator transitions, 21 students who were referred have had meetings with U-13 staff and agreed to receive certain U-13 services. Only two children who have received U-13 services have re-offended since the program began, and as well as three additional youths who were referred but had not yet agreed to receive services. By providing early, comprehensive preventative services, U-13 has begun creating success stories for at-risk children who may otherwise become the tragic subject of a

StateStat case review. Two schools in Prince George’s County, Oxon Hill and Hyattsville Elementary, will be the hubs in the county.

Follow-Up

- **Are Delays in Processing Juvenile Cases Resulting in Negative Results?** During the previous DJS Stat, Secretary Abed indicated that the Prince George’s County Police Department had been holding on to over 1,500 juvenile arrest cases. Due to some vacancies within the Department, these cases were not passed along to DJS in a timely manner. DJS indicated that they prioritized the cases and felony charges were addressed immediately upon receipt. Secretary Abed was encouraged to speak with Prince George’s County as soon as possible to discuss their work flow issues.

In light of this conversation, StateStat recently was made aware of a report, released in February 2014, from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) entitled ‘[Delays in Youth Justice](#)’. This report indicates that “Delays in the processing of youth through the justice system can have negative results not only for the youth themselves but also for their families and communities. Improving the timeliness of the justice process is far more than a technical matter for managers and judges; it is a critical part of policy and practice in ensuring the juvenile justice system fulfills its basic mission. DJS is aware that processing youth as quickly as possible allows for more rapid deployment of services and situations such as the aforementioned problems in Prince George’s County may be out of DJS’s control. The ‘Delays in Youth Justice’ report provides the following data as the standard suggested time limitations suggested in the juvenile justice system:

TABLE 1: Standard time limitations suggested by professional organizations

Suggested Standards	Maximum Number of Days		
	From Referral to Adjudication	From Adjudication to Disposition	Total
Detained Juveniles			
UA/ABA standards (1977-80)	15	15	30
NAC/OJJDP standards (1980)	18	15	33
ABA standard 2.52 (1984)	15 ^a	15	30 ^a
NDAA standard 19.2 (1989)	30	30	60
NCJFCJ/OJJDP standards (2005)	10 ^b	10	20
Released Juveniles			
UA/ABA standards (1977-80)	30	30	60
NAC/OJJDP standards (1980)	65	15	80
ABA standard 2.52 (1984)	30 ^c	15	45 ^c
NDAA standard 19.2 (1989)	60	30	90
NCJFCJ/OJJDP standards (2005)	20 ^b	20	40

Note: UA = Institute of Judicial Administration; ABA = American Bar Association; NAC = National Advisory Committee for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; OJJDP = Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; NDAA = National District Attorneys Association; NCJFCJ = National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

a. Deadline triggered by detention admission.

b. Deadline triggered by initial hearing.

c. Deadline triggered by filing of delinquency petition.

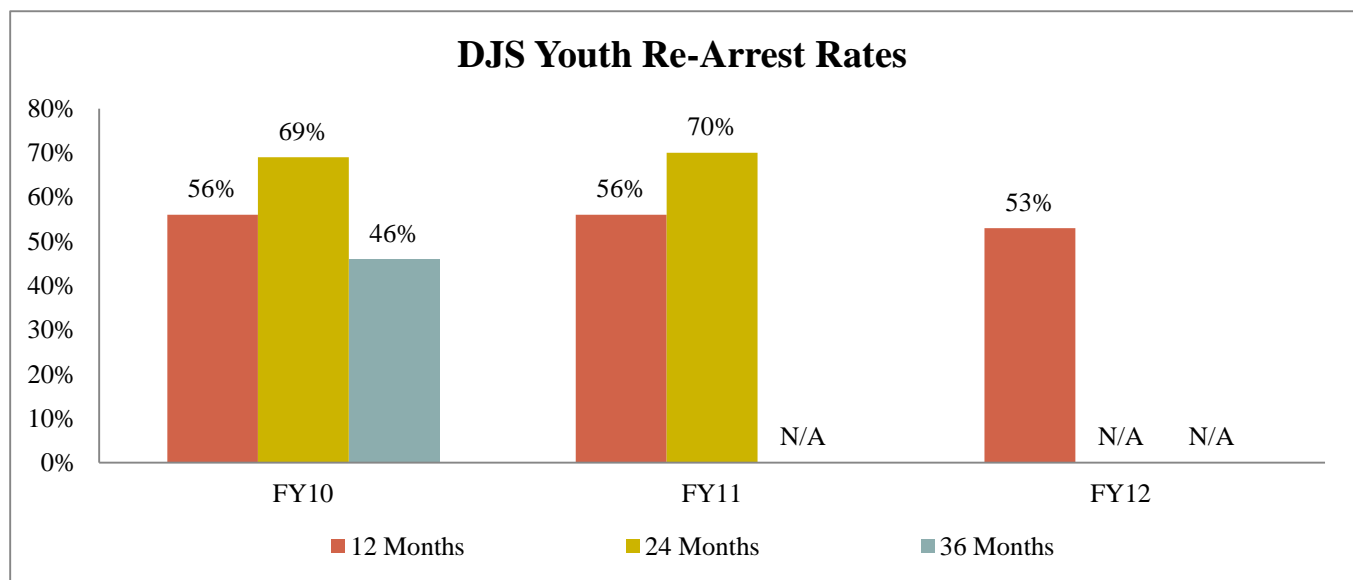
DJS states that they are generally trying to follow these times but it has been difficult. However, they have worked to fix the issues in Prince George's County and they have spoken with other jurisdictions who are having difficulty passing along cases in a timely manner.

Legislation

- **House Bill 1035 Looks to Lighten Caseload in Prince George's County.** House Bill 1035, the Prince George's County Juvenile Court and School Safety Workgroup – 3 Continuation, Membership, and Duties bill, was introduced to the legislature by the Prince George's County delegation on February 6, 2014. This bill looks to reduce the number of school-based arrests and referrals for certain misdemeanor offenses to DJS and the juvenile court in Prince George's County by diverting more youth to school and community based programs; with the goal to decrease the overrepresentation of African American youth in the juvenile justice system. DJS supports this bill.

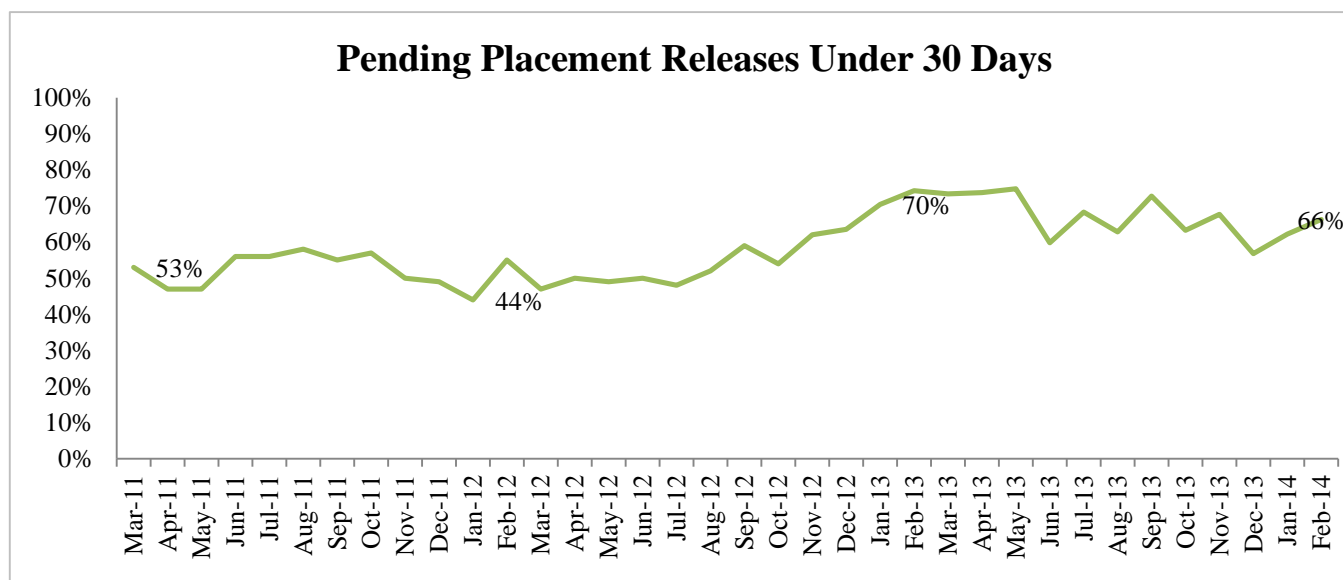
Supervision

- **Recidivism Rates for DJS Youth Declining After the 1st Year but Increasing After 2nd Year.** According to DJS' Data Resource Guide, recidivism means re-referral or re-arrest within one year after a youth is released from a committed residential placement. Youth can be tracked for 12, 24, and 36 month periods. The data below shows that 12 month recidivism rates declined in FY12 while 24 month recidivism data increased from FY10 to FY11. DJS states that the CJCA recommends at 12 and 24 months. This data shows re-arrest as an adult and a youth. Compared to other states, Maryland is doing well.



- **Tracking DJS Pending Placement within 30 Days Data in a Proper Way.** Currently, in the DJS template, DJS tracks youth being placed into long term programs within 30 days of entering detention (overall and by region). However, this metric is not a perfect way to determine if youth are being placed quickly into these types of programs due to the fact that there are always extenuating circumstances that could be affecting the data. For example, youth awaiting out-of-state placement affects this rate tremendously due to the fact that the process of placing a youth in a facility in another state generally is long. As a follow-up item, DJS was asked to provide data to StateStat showing the "Pending Placement

Under 30 Days” by jurisdiction for youth with data broken out for youth awaiting placement out-of-state and pending placement into residential treatment centers. DJS presented a mock report for today’s meeting.



	Pending Plcmnt Rel. under 30 Days	Baltimore City	Central Region	Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region	Metro Region
Feb-14	66%	52%	71%	100%	70%	92%	52%
Jan-14	62%	65%	65%	71%	71%	73%	46%
Dec-14	58%	32%	94%	67%	71%	88%	58%
Nov-13	68%	53%	70%	100%	100%	75%	56%
Oct-13	65%	52%	61%	80%	100%	79%	63%
Sep-13	72%	61%	80%	86%	80%	100%	52%
Aug-13	63%	44%	80%	50%	83%	80%	62%
Jul-13	68%	63%	65%	100%	73%	71%	63%
Jun-13	60%	48%	53%	50%	90%	83%	55%
May-13	75%	48%	93%	78%	80%	87%	73%
Apr-13	74%	52%	79%	100%	63%	81%	83%
Mar-13	73%	65%	85%	100%	88%	80%	68%
Feb-13	74%	43%	78%	68%	78%	94%	66%
Jan-13	70%	38%	63%	75%	67%	71%	57%
Dec-12	64%	60%	82%	75%	91%	64%	48%
Nov-12	62%	58%	63%	63%	60%	80%	55%
Oct-12	54%	33%	60%	83%	67%	61%	51%
Sep-12	59%	56%	73%	100%	67%	53%	56%
Aug-12	52%	45%	63%	83%	57%	60%	45%
Jul-12	48%	36%	59%	33%	54%	48%	50%

- Educational Performance and Arrest Discrepancies of Girls Versus Boys in DJS Programs.**

According to a recent [article](#) in womensenews.org entitled “Pushed Out of School, Black Girls Lose Huge Ground”, there are significant concerns over the fact that, “just 60 percent of black females graduate high school in four years, the National Women's Law Center reports, compared to 78 percent of white females. Black girls are three times more likely than white girls to receive out-of-school suspensions, according to a 2012 report by the Department of Education, and are more likely to repeat a grade.” This in turn relates to the fact that those youth with significant behavioral issues are being pushed into the juvenile justice system

and are being placed into juvenile facilities. The worry is that the kids, and girls in particular, who are placed into juvenile facilities, are having a harder time performing well educationally.

The disturbing trend is that more and more girls are being arrested for status offenses and data shows that in 2010, 67 percent of the 500,000 young women in the juvenile justice system were arrested for petty theft, loitering, violating curfew, disorderly conduct and other low-level offenses. In comparison, during this same period, 52 percent of males were arrested because of offenses they committed in these categories; according to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). DJS stated that they are looking to work with MSDE to receive school data in terms of attendance and they will work with DLLR on wage data. Updates will be provided in subsequent stats on the cross agency work.

Pushed Out of School, Black Girls Lose Huge Ground

By Crystal Lewis
WeNews correspondent
Monday, March 24, 2014

Once black girls wind up in juvenile justice schools it's hard to find the path to financial stability. Research has found that black girls are more likely to be punished for being "un-ladylike" and seen by teachers as "loud, defiant, and precocious." The first in the series the Bias Price.

(WOMENSENEWS)--Monique Morris says black girls are getting into trouble at school for just being who they have to be.

"The majority of black girls who have been suspended got kicked out for being loud, even if they weren't being disrespectful," said Morris, co-founder of the National Black Women's Justice Institute, based in Oakland, Calif. "It's cultural for black girls to speak up, and they are going to fight back if something is wrong."

Once these girls have gotten in trouble at school, they're often seen as "the problem."

This is especially true because black girls bullying at school often looks different than it does for white girls. Morris offers the example of a student who was kicked out for vandalizing school property when she wrote "I hate the B's at this school." "She was being bullied and provoked to fight, and didn't know how to react. This was her cry for help, and no one listened," she said.

"We need to stop these push-out practices that criminalize girls for who they are instead of what they've done," added Morris, whose article "Education and the Caged Bird: School Pushout and the Juvenile Court School," published in Poverty and Race Research Action Council, is one of the few explorations into the intersection of black girls, education and the juvenile justice system. "Girls are at an increased risk because there is a lack of community-based response to their problems. We have male-oriented reporting centers, but there's no exploration of what girls need so that they won't reoffend."

Department of Legislative Services Recommendations

- **Department of Legislative Services (DLS) Budget Testimony.** The table below is a summarized version of the DLS Budget Analysis and Recommendations to the Senate Public Safety House Committee and the House Appropriations Committee on February 20-21, 2014.

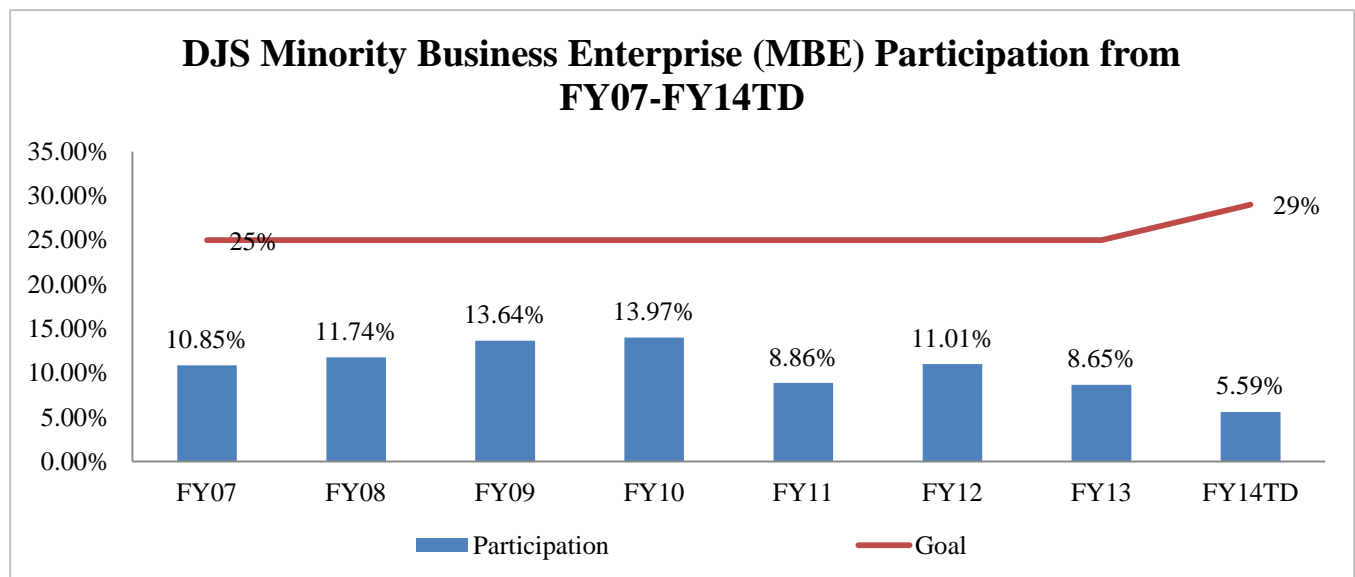
DJS Budget Testimony		
DLS Recommendation:	Summary:	DJS Response
Creation of a Central Hiring Process	The budget committees direct DJS to develop a plan for creating a centralized hiring unit within the Office of the Secretary to oversee and coordinate all departmental staffing needs. DJS has historically struggled with recruitment and retention of direct care employees in particular. Under the current system, each DJS facility is responsible for filling its assigned vacancies, with no coordination or oversight from DJS management or individuals with human resources functions.	Agrees
Improving Direct Care Employee Retention	It is the intent of the budget committees that DJS, in consultation with DBM, conducts an evaluation of ways to improve the retention of direct care employees. DJS has made considerable improvements in the ability to hire facility direct care employees; however, nearly half of new hires leave DJS service within two years. DJS has previously examined and recommended ways to improve facility culture; the remaining hindrance to employee retention is compensation. At a minimum, DJS and DBM should consider the fiscal impact and operational benefit of a general salary increase via the Annual Salary Review process and/or provision of an employee retention bonus program.	Disagrees
Utilization of Alternative to Detention Programming	The budget committees direct DJS to conduct an evaluation on the availability and utilization of alternative to detention programs in Maryland. Data analyzing the use of secure detention in Maryland indicated that too many youth were unnecessarily detained. Expanding alternative to detention programming would provide resources to reduce the population of youth in DJS detention facilities.	Agrees
Delete duplicative funding for the new Evening Reporting Center in Montgomery County	Reducing these funds still provide the full appropriation needed to operate the center.	Agrees
Reduce funding for contractual mental health evaluations to be more in line with prior year actual expenditures	This reduction can be allocated amongst all regions.	Agrees
Reduce deficiency funding for contractual mental health services.	Year-to-date expenditures suggest these funds are not required. Funding beyond the existing appropriation should not be needed based on the department's new process for conducting evaluations internally.	Agrees
Total Reductions to Fiscal 2014 Deficiency	\$104,289	
Total General Fund Reductions to Allowance	\$818,065	

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)

- An Update on DJS' MBE Participation in FY14 to Date.** DJS reports 5.59 percent MBE achievement through the month of January. DJS has averaged 11.25 percent MBE achievement over the last seven years and 8.65 percent in FY13. It does not appear that DJS will be awarding any new per diem provider contracts in FY14. A large number of provider contracts were awarded last year and they do not expire until 2016. GOMA met with the three largest human services agencies last summer to talk about ways to maximize MBE participation leading up to the removal of non-profits from the MBE Program. The strategies agreed upon were as follows:
 - 1) Designate more procurements for SBR
 - 2) Ensure that total overall procurement awards (denominator) and total MBE awards (numerator) are not being over or under-reported
 - 3) Develop and distribute lists of professional services MBEs to agency end users and P-card holders.

After the last DJS Statestat MBE discussion in October 2013, DJS requested a meeting with GOMA to review FY14 purchasing activity and discuss ways to increase MBE utilization. The meeting took place on November 5th. For that meeting, the working document was one similar to the Procurement Awards Detail Sheet. The discussion centered on the goods and services typically purchased on a regular basis by DJS, and strategies that might increase the potential for more MBE prime contract awards. The average size/scope of individual DJS contracts lessens the options for MBE subcontracting.

GOMA notes that over 90 percent of DJS's procurement transactions in the maintenance and services categories are valued at less than \$15K, yet there are very few MBE prime awards. Under the 15K threshold, the procurement does not have to be posted on EMarylandMarketplace and the procurement officer determines who will be solicited to bid on the goods or services needed. The only requirement is that the procurement officer tries to obtain a minimum of two qualified bids before making the award decision which may/may not be based on the lowest bid. The procurement officer can, and most times does conduct the entire selection process over the phone, as no written solicitation is required. A review of the work descriptions for the <15K procurements in these two categories indicates that some projects have significant potential for MBE prime contracting.



- **An Update on DJS' Small Business Reserve (SBR) Participation in FY14 to Date.** DJS reports 5.58 percent SBR through the first six months of FY14. Based on historical achievement, DJS is, for the most part, steadily improving from one year to the next. In June of this year, the 23 SBR agencies will be submitting their FY15 SBR strategic plans to GOMA. The strategic plan template requires agencies to list all known 2015 procurements and to note whether the procurement will/ will not be set aside or designated for SBR only.

DJS Small Business Reserve (SBR) Participation from FY07- FY14TD

